

HADLEY IS AGAINST DEBT LIMIT RULE

Controller Will Propose That Council Ignore Opinion by City Solicitor Smyth

HE URGES INDEPENDENCE

City Controller Hadley, it was stated in responsible quarters today, is preparing to challenge and even to reject City Solicitor Smyth's opinion that the entire future cost of the Delaware River bridge, of the sewage disposal system and of other such projects should be charged against the city's borrowing capacity.

Mr. Smyth's opinion, the most far-reaching in the history of municipal finance, cut down with one slash, as it were, the city's borrowing capacity from approximately \$53,000,000 to \$14,000,000. Such a radical curtailment of permanent public improvements which may be provided for out of loan funds.

When the Smyth opinion reached the City Controller it was proposed to do nothing to accept the opinion and be guided accordingly. The only counter idea was that a taxpayer's suit might be started to determine whether the City Controller's opinion was definitely binding and conclusive. Now, however, acting under private legal advice, the City Controller plans to send a communication to City Council next Thursday setting forth that neither the Controller's office nor Council is bound to abide by the Smyth opinion.

In brief, hereafter, Council and the Controller may add another chapter to the present series of sensational financial developments by asserting complete independence of the City Solicitor's views. It is further asserted that such action on the part of Council and the Controller will in no wise impair the validity of any loans which may be authorized under the amended limit of \$53,000,000. It is further insisted that instead of a taxpayer's suit being instituted by friends of the majority in Council or of the Controller, to determine the legality of the Smyth opinion, it would be up to Mr. Smyth and the Mayor to take legal action if they insist that Council and the Controller should be bound by the Smyth opinion. In other words, the Controller, in his statement to Council, will try to turn the legal tables on the City Solicitor.

See Political Import
Some of the majority members of Council appear to feel that the Smyth opinion has a political import in that it is an alleged effort to hamstring the next City Administration which the organization hopes will be under their control. That view overlooks, of course, the fact that the Smyth opinion really hamstringing the present Administration, for instance, in its application to the Mayor's plan of widening streets in connection with the approach system to the Delaware River bridge.

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Says Council Is Free Agent
All along Councilman Devolin, the independent leader in Council, has insisted that City Council did not need any additional legislation from Harrisburg in order to have absolute and intimate control over the building projects of the Park Commission, the County Commissioners or the Municipal Court. He says all that is required is that Council appropriate funds for the purpose and have these funds spent and administered under the control of the City Architect and the City Department of Public Works, as it is now. Council supplies the money, but it is spent by bodies acting under a separate and independent county power, such as is the case with respect to the Park Commission and the County Commissioners who by their own initiative and generally proceed independently, once they get a start from Council.

No Precedent for Ruling
In his statement to Council, acting on private legal advice, it is said Controller Hadley will say there is no precedent for the ruling of the City Solicitor, and that rulings of the past sustain the view that the City Solicitor's opinion is not binding on the City Council. The new City Charter apparently does not make it incumbent upon county officers, such as the City Controller, to accept the opinions of the City Solicitor. Describing the duties of the City Solicitor, the charter sets forth: "The City Solicitor shall be the legal adviser and act as attorney and counsel for the city, for all branches of the Government, and for all departments and officers of the city."

If the advance information as to the Hadley statement to Council is borne out, when the statement is published, then the City Controller, as the fiscal officer of the city and county, will advise the City Council that the Smyth opinion is ignored and that the status before the rendering of the Smyth opinion shall prevail.

ANCIENT SILVER GIFTS



Some of the tankards and other dishes presented to the Pennsylvania Museum by members of several prominent families. The tankard in center of three in lower picture was made for Andrew Hamilton, architect of Independence Hall, while that shown at top is the Ben Franklin tankard made by Houdinot

KING ALFONSO LAUDS DOCTOR HERE ON FAMILY COINCIDENCE

Llanerch Physician Married Same Day as Ruler, and Their First Child Was Born on Same Date—Each Has Four Children

The 31st of May, 1906, was a notable day in the lives of two men. One was the king of Spain—the other a doctor in Philadelphia. It was on that day that each was married and through the years their lives have been strangely similar. They were married on the same day and their first child was born on the same day.

TEACHERS TO HEAR NOTED EDUCATORS
Phila. Will Be Well Represented at Seventy-third Convention at Bethlehem

KANSAS GOVERNOR ON LIST
Teachers from this city and all parts of the State will gather at Bethlehem tomorrow for the seventy-third convention of the Pennsylvania Education Association in the new \$2,000,000 Liberty High School Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

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MRS. WARBURTON IN SCHOOL BOARD LIST

Her Name to Be Under Consideration for Vacancy Following Wanamaker Death

JUDGES MEET TOMORROW

The Board of Judges of the Common Pleas Court will hold a special meeting tomorrow afternoon to name a new member of the Board of Education to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John Wanamaker.

The board will take under consideration the names of three women who have been proposed for the vacancy. There is strong likelihood a woman will be appointed.

The three names submitted to the Board of Judges by citizens and organizations are Mrs. Barclay H. Warburton, vice chairman of the Republican State Committee; Mrs. I. H. O'Hara, prominent in civic work and a sister of the late Director of Welfare Ernest Tustin; and Miss Marion Reilly, formerly a dean of Bryn Mawr College, and long interested in educational affairs.

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No Cover Charge
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GLOUCESTER 'Y' BOYS HERE

300 on Annual Sightseeing Trip of the City

Three hundred Gloucester County boys were in Philadelphia today for their annual holiday sightseeing trip, under the direction of the Gloucester County Y. M. C. A. Special coaches were attached to the local electric train leaving Glensboro over the West Jersey and Seashore Railroad this morning and picked up groups of boys at Pitman, Sewell, Wenonah and Woodbury.

GEESE PICKED ON HIM
Railroad Worker Attacked by Flock Flying North, He Says
Eugene McAfferty, signal inspector on the P. R. E., has had good reason for an experience yesterday when passing over the Perkiomen creek bridge, after inspecting a signal.

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